transmission time depends on availability on manpower, resources and *inter-sepriority* of programme requirement.

Privatisation of Prasar Bharti

1559. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated to partially privatise or joint-venturise the operations of the Prasar Bharti;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the six-member Committee appointed to lay down guidelines and a road map to prepare Prasar Bharti to adapt to new technologies and the shift in broadcast paradigms has submitted its report; and

(d) if so, the details of the recomendations made and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) A group of six officers has been constituted by Prasar Bharti to examine the feasibility of privatization/joint venturisation of Metro Channel.

(c) No such committee has been consitituted by Prasar Bharti.

(d) Does not arise.

Cases investigated by CBI on telecasting of DD programmes

†1560. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many cases related with the programmes being telecast by Doordarshan are being investigated by CBI;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the total number of cases investigated by CBI from March, 1998 to December, 2001; and

(c) the total number of cases out of them in which investigation has been completed, so far, and number of cases in which proof of conviction has been established?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Regulatory body for cable operators

1561. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cable TV Equipment Trader and Manufacturers' Association (CTMA) urged Government to set up a Regulatory body on the lines of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI);

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken to check arbitrary increases in subscriptions by the cable operators?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No such request has been received by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, there is no legal provision to regulate the subscription charged by the Cable and Multi Service Operators and Channel companies. Government is examining the feasibility of mandating Conditional Access System (CAS) for Pay Channel viewing through cable, which would, *inter alia*, enable the consumer to pay for only those Pay Channels, from among such Pay Channels offered by the Cable Operator, that the consumer subscribes for. The